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(4) That a standard of all the State coins should be kept in all the public offices.

(5) That the treasuries be instructed to disburse copper coins in exchange, to the value of five rupees, to every applicant, who might apply for the same.

(6) That the people should be supplied with copper coins in exchange for silver in all markets and other public places till the currency difficulty was over.

The Member further said that any delay in taking steps to remedy the evil, would cause the spread of the British coins and minimize the currency of the local coins.

Dewan's reply.—The Member has correctly described the existing evils. Action is being taken to remedy them.

3. Suggesting the issue of cheques by the Trivandrum Major Treasury, for monies paid into it, on the Major Treasury at Alleppey.

Mr. S. Ganapathy Pillai (Member, Trivandrum Trading Classes) stated that most of the articles for daily use were brought to Trivandrum from the ports of Alleppey and Cochin and that more than 12 lacs of rupees had to be transmitted to Alleppey every year as the value of these articles. At present, payment of 8 lacs of rupees was made by cash remittance at the serious risk of the local bankers. They wanted the help of the Government in this direction, and he suggested that the Major Treasury at Trivandrum might receive money and issue cheques on the Alleppey Treasury. He pointed out that, if his prayer was acceded to, the Government would in no way be a loser, but only a gainer, for a thousand rupees was spent annually for taking down 10 lacs of rupees from the Alleppey Treasury and a part of this expense could be saved, even after deducting the extra expenditure, if any, that might be entailed on the Government by the issue of cheques as suggested.

Dewan's reply.—The revised Account Code provides for the purpose.

II. Main Heads of Revenue.

(i) Land Revenue.

4. That the *cherikal* lands which are now dealt with as *thanathuchitta* lands should be registered on a reduce rate of tax for paddy cultivation.

Mr. R. Krishna Panicker (Member, Peermade taluk) said that the *cherikal* lands could be cultivated only once in 12 years and the income derived from cultivating them was not at all encouraging under the existing conditions. At the recent Settlement they were recorded as *thanathuchitta* lands and assessed as such, to the great inconvenience of the ryots. The present assessment rate, 3 fs. per acre, was 5 times that of the original, but the recent order of the Government that all *thanathuchitta* lands should be assessed at not less than 5 fs.

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per acre would not only prove to be a great source of hardship to the holders of the *cherikal* lands but also be detrimental to the cause of *cherikal* cultivation. He urged that the *cherikal* lands be treated in accordance with the Rules of Government dated 10th Meenam 1082 and that *cherikal* cultivation be encouraged by assessing the lands at a lower rate, by permitting the ryots to clear off the arrears of taxes within three years, and by getting the lands registered in the names of those applicants who were the holders of them. If no reduction in the assessment was feasible, the Member prayed that the present rate of 3 fs. be not enhanced and that remission be made in regard to the present arrears of tax.

Dewan's reply.—The special *cherikal* rules issued in 1907 were, after careful consideration, cancelled last year All *pandaravagai cherikal* lands are now registered as ordinary *puduval* lands. The Government see no reason to alter this procedure.

5. Reclamations from the Vembanad lake and the *tharavila* on the same.

Mr. Kanaku Narayanan Kesavan (Member, Kottayam taluk) stated that Travancore, though mainly an agricultural country, had to depend on the produce of foreign lands for its rice supply, as was evident from the fact that about 40 lacs of rupees worth of rice and paddy were being imported annually. The Government had been encouraging the development of agriculture in more ways than one. It was during the time of Dewan Rama Row that reclamations from the Vembanad lake were started and the Government encouraged the same by declaring that loans would be given for private enterprise in this direction. As a result of Government Order No. 9842, dated 19th Mithunam 1064, to the effect that lands reclaimed from the Vembanad lake would not be assessed for the first five years, and that for the next five years the assessment would only be at half the rates, many poor cultivators reclaimed lands. But now the *tharavila* for reclamations had been raised from one rupee to Rs. twenty-five. The application of this enhanced rate in the case of lands previously reclaimed, was rather a serious hardship on the cultivators. In his opinion, it did not seem fair that the lands in the same enclosure should have different rates of assessment, one portion under the old and the other under the new rate. It was really a hardship that a ryot who had spent a lot of money for reclaiming land had to pay again Rs. 25 as *tharavila* for getting it registered in his name. He prayed that a reduction in the rate be effected as regards reclaimed lands. The Member then urged the necessity of granting permission to reclaim lands from Vembanad and withdrawing the order prohibiting the same. In conclusion, the Member requested the Government to reconsider the question of *tharavila* on the reclaimed lands and prayed that a concession of *tharavila* at the old rate be

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